



Usborne Phonics Readers Sam sheep can't sleep



Usborne Phonics Readers have been created in consultation with a language expert, taking into account the latest research on the most effective ways of teaching reading. Children who have just learned to read can enjoy the lively stories with very little guidance from an adult, gaining the experience and enthusiasm they need to become fully confident readers.

Stephen Cartwright's delightful illustrations complement the text and are designed to stimulate further interest. Fold-out pages add to the enjoyment.

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Supports
synthetic
phonics
learning



Phil Roxbee Cox & Stephen Cartwright

What is synthetic phonics?

Phonics-based reading involves learning to recognize the distinct sounds, or phonemes, that go together to make up words. There are just over 40 phonemes in the English language. Some phonemes correspond to a single letter, like the s-a-m sounds in the name "Sam", and others to combinations of letters, such as the sh-ee-p sounds in the word "sheep".

Synthetic phonics is the process of reading by *sounding* the individual phonemes in a word, and then synthesizing – running them together – or *blending* them to read the whole word. Children who learn to read using synthetic phonics start by learning the individual phonemes, then soon learn to sound and blend in order to read whole words. This gives them the confidence to read unfamiliar words and tackle new texts, an important step towards independent reading.

Words can be divided into two basic groups: regular phonic words, such as "cat", which can be read by sounding and blending, and words which are wholly or partly irregular. Most words in English are regular, but some very common words, such as "the" and "was", are irregular and have to be learned. When your child meets an unfamiliar word, encourage him or her to read it regularly; children may recognize the irregularity and correct themselves, or you can guide them if necessary.

Read this story with your child, encouraging him or her to sound out the words as you go. Soon, most children will start to sound out the words for themselves. This is an excellent way of helping to develop a fundamental reading skill.

Dr. Marlynn Grant

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Phil Roxbee Cox

Illustrated by Stephen Cartwright

Edited by Jenny Tyler



Language consultant: Marlynn Grant

BSc, CertEd, MEdPsych, PhD, AFBPs, CPsychol



There is a little yellow duck to find on every page.

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Sam Sheep can't sleep.



Sam Sheep gets up.



Sam Sheep wakes up Pup.

Pup barks. "It's late. It's dark."



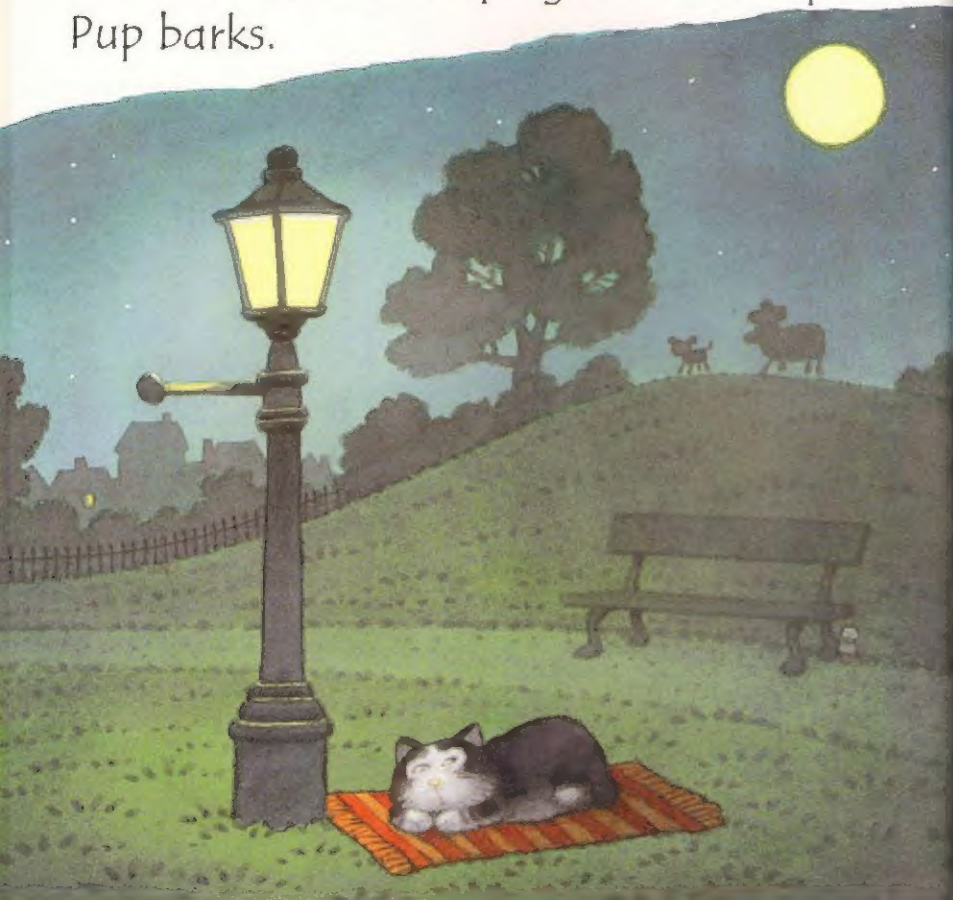
"Go to sleep, Sam Sheep!"

"I can't sleep," says Sam Sheep.
"I need to see Fat Cat."



"Fat Cat can sleep for weeks and weeks!"

Fat Cat's on her sleeping mat in the park.
Pup barks.

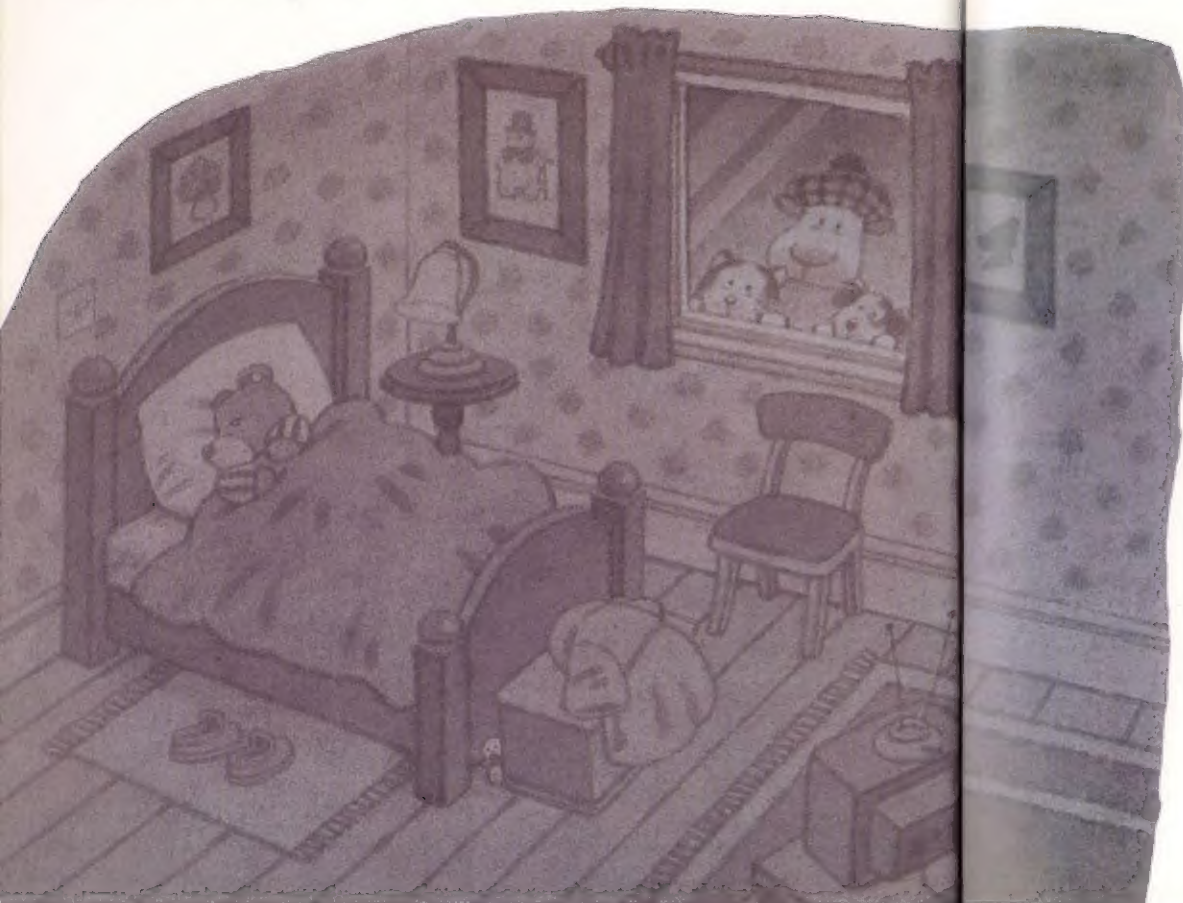


"It's late. It's dark. Go to sleep!"
"Sorry," barks Pup. "Sam Sheep can't sleep."



"You need to see Ted in his red bed."

Ted is asleep in his red bed.



Pup barks in the
dark night ...



Ted wakes up.

On goes the light.



"You gave me a fright!"



"Sorry," barks Pup. "Sam Sheep can't sleep."



"Then let's see Big Pig, down the street."

Big Pig grunts "You woke me up!"
Fat Cat yawns. "Don't blame us."



"Sorry," barks Pup. "Sam Sheep can't sleep."

"Can't sleep?" says Big Pig. "Then do a jig."



"That will make you sleep, Sam Sheep."

So Pup starts to jiggle.



Fat Cat starts to wiggle.



Ted does a wriggle.



So Pup starts to jiggle.



Fat Cat starts
to wiggle.



... and Big Pig starts to giggle.

But what about Sam Sheep?



Sam Sheep is asleep!

